GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2352
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2007
THEFT OF STRATEGIC INFORMATION FROM DEFENCE ESTABLISHMENT
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Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some computer devices, containing strategic information, have been stolen from the premises of the Kanpur-based Defence Material Store Research Development and Establishment;

(b) if so, whether the cases of theft in Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) and other related organisations have increased during the recent past;

(c) if so, the number of such incidents reported in the country during the last one year;

(d) the action taken in each case; and

(e) the measures taken by the Union Government to check such incidents in future?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) As per the preliminary information received from Defence Materials and Stores Research & Development Establishment (DMSRDE), Kanpur, the three computers stolen from its premises did not contain any strategic information.

(b) & (c): This is the only one theft case in DMSRDE and in all the related organisations in DRDO during the last one year.

(d) In DMSRDE incidence, the laboratory has constituted a committee to investigate into circumstances of theft and bring out the items and data lost. The laboratory has also filed First Information Report (FIR) to local police station for investigations as per preliminary report submitted by committee. Meanwhile, a Departmental/Vigilance inquiry has also been initiated.

(e) Remedial measures are put in place to ensure that such incidences do not take place in future.